

## WCTE Position Statement Regarding the Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts

In light of the recent questions raised by Governor Walker regarding the adoption and implementation of the CCSS for the state of Wisconsin educational systems, the Wisconsin Council of Teachers of English resolves:

WCTE recognizes the importance and need for standards.

WCTE supports the rigor of the CCSS for ELA and its potential to impact student learning and develop Wisconsin students to be college and career ready.

WCTE encourages educational leaders in WI to have broad interpretation of the CCSS for ELA.

WCTE believes that the CCSS for ELA provide a basic framework, which can be a starting place in making curricular decisions.

WCTE believes that the spirit of the CCSS for ELA as a guide for college and career readiness is enhanced when seen in the larger context of the ELA as one of the humanities that explore the human experience.

WCTE endorses the efforts of Wisconsin DPI to place the CCSS for ELA in the larger context of the humanities.

WCTE cautions against the misuse of assessment of students and teachers that will be linked to the CCSS for ELA.

WCTE supports the five policy goals developed by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) through their partnership with the National Center for Literacy Education (NCLE) and their compelling report on the current status of support for professional learning in schools:

"Remodeling Literacy Learning: Making Room for What Works."

1. Support educators' knowledge of literacy pertinent to their content areas.
2. Promote active collaboration among educators to deepen student learning.
3. Invest in professional learning that is ongoing, job-embedded, collaborative, and linked to engaging literacy learners across grades and subjects.
4. Deploy educator time to maximize the development of collective capacity across a school or system.
5. Foster shared agreements about literacy among educators to deepen learning in every subject.

Passed by WCTE membership October 11, 2013.